



Vol. 47, No. 8 • 374th Airlift Wing • Yokota Air Base, Japan • Friday, March 3, 2006

3 News Captains make cut for major selections
4 Commentary Mind your manners in Japan
5 Feature More than meets the eye ...

Explaining a NEO way to travel



photos by Airman Laszlo Babocsi



Above, Ed Summers, a readiness consultant with the Family Support Center, briefs noncombatants during the Noncombatant Evacuation Operations (NEO) evaluation of the Operational Readiness Inspection here Feb. 23. Left, Tech. Sgt. Reginald Moore and Staff Sgt. Shannon Wilkins connect a NEO noncombatant tracking system as inspectors observe and grade.

Samurai warriors finish mudslide relief missions

By Capt Ben Alumbaugh
374th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

After 11 days of airlifting humanitarian relief, executing missions for exercise Balikatan and being inspected for an Operational Readiness Inspection, the 36th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron, which includes Airmen from the 374th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and the 374th Logistics Readiness Squadron's Combat Mobility Element, is back home.

The squadron finished flying Feb. 28 and returned back to Samurai Country Thursday.

"Having humanitarian relief missions, exercise missions and being inspected is a tough load to handle, but our guys came through with flying colors," said Lt. Col. Bill Summers, 36th EAS commander. "We worked around the clock to get the mission completed."

"As for the humanitarian missions, our main goal was to be as expedient as we could to help lessen the suffering of the people down there and to make sure the supplies were getting to the right spots," said the colonel. "It was a real team effort to say the least. The maintenance guys kept us ready and the CME Airmen did an outstanding job with all the cargo."

While at Clark Air Base in the Philippines, the 36th EAS moved more than 140 tons of cargo and 160 personnel to assist in the relief efforts. In total more than 240 tons of humanitarian aid was shipped out by all the services with the 36th EAS airlifting well over half of the amount.

The members of CME were responsible for marshaling and taking care of the cargo for all of Clark and even had to split up their team to send members to Tacloban and Cebu.

Due to the nature of the relief efforts, the 36th EAS worked around the clock along with other U.S. forces and the Philippine Air Force.

"We came down expecting one thing initially, but as everyone knows you have to remain flexible," said Capt. Daren Harmon, 374th AMXS maintenance operations officer. "Our people did a wonderful job making sure we met every mission on time with no exceptions."

Even though this was a regularly scheduled exercise, the events of Balikatan left impressions on most people.

"To be part of such an effort was an eye-opening experience," said Capt. Ian Fairchild, 36th EAS pilot. "We focused on helping as much as we could and we hope these supplies touched both the hands and hearts of those who need them the most."

Base leadership clarifies regulations concerning minors

By Senior Airman Katie Thomas
Editor

Base leadership has noted that there is confusion about what is expected of its youth population including curfew hours and the legal drinking and smoking ages.

The Yokota Conduct Adjudication Program (YCAP) and its higher authority, the 374th Mission Support Group, want to clear up that confusion.

"We, parents, unit commanders and community members have to watch what our youth are doing in this relatively small, confined area," said Erica Usher, YCAP Coordinator. "We must ensure that our youth comply with base policy."

The base has seen an increase in violations from minors re-

cently, and one of the causes is linked to miscommunication about the rules or lack of knowing what the rules are, she said.

YCAP is an administrative program that assists individuals and families experiencing problems as it relates to civilian and family member misconduct, she said. The program also tries to create a partnership with sponsors, the command and base agencies in determining the appropriate response to misconduct.

Contributing to the violations also includes who is considered a minor. A minor is a family member who is 18 years old or less, excluding high school graduates or equivalents or spouses under age 18.

Among the top concerns is the curfew for minors.

The curfew for all minors is

10:30 p.m. to 5:30 a.m. daily. Curfew on Fridays, Saturdays, holidays, and summer break are midnight to 5:30 a.m. for high school juniors and seniors. Minors can only be out during curfew hours if they: are with a parent or person who is 18 years old and not in high school; has been to a base- or school-sponsored event or at their place of work, and not more than 30 minutes has gone by from the time they left the event or work place.

Another concern is minors in active-duty dormitories.

Ms. Usher said that the dormitory responsibility letter states for unaccompanied dormitories: no guests under the age of 18, other than a member of the armed services or the military member's family, is allowed at any time in the dorms, unless the child is ac-

companied by their parent or legal guardian.

Drinking and smoking are also a common point of confusion, said Ms. Usher. The legal drinking age is 20 both on and off base. The legal smoking age is 18.

As a reminder, she cited that illicit drug use is prohibited for all base community members regardless of age. Additionally, pellet and BB guns or any other weapon classified as a firearm on base is prohibited.

Shoplifting, larceny and theft are also illegal regardless of age. Minors as well as adults can expect to automatically receive a six-month suspension of AAFES privileges and a \$200 recovery fee regardless of the merchandise value was stolen.

For any single violation or

combination of them, minors can expect one or more of the following: loss of Army and Air Force Exchange Services (AAFES), commissary, or MWR privileges; evaluation or counseling; restricted curfew; restriction to base or quarters; suspension or loss of driving privileges; or debarment from the base.

"The base policies are set in place to help ensure we maintain a healthy living environment," said Ms. Usher. "If a youth chooses to disobey the regulations, they will have to suffer the consequences set forth in YCAP's rule book, 374 AW Instruction 31-202."

For more information about regulations regarding minors or about YCAP, community members are encouraged to call Ms. Usher at 225-8353.

ORI countdown: 9 days

Two medical Airmen recognized with AF-level awards

NCOs 'best of the best' after competing, winning at PACAF

By Staff Sgt. Karen J. Tomasik
374th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Two of Samurai Country's medical Airmen earned praise and recognition for their selection as the best in their career field.

Tech. Sgt. Phillip Monk, 374th Medical Support Squadron, was selected as the Air Force Clinical Laboratory Noncommissioned Officer of the Year and Tech. Sgt. William Bussie III, also from the 374th MDSS, earned recognition as the Air Force Outstanding Facility Manager of the Year.

Sergeant Monk, a Medical

Laboratory Craftsman by trade on his second tour at Yokota, currently serves in the Wing Inspector General Office, a position normally filled by a Senior NCO. While in IG, he orchestrated ground blast simulation training through Misawa EOD for 30 Wing Exercise Evaluation Team members and led a wing EET training class, teaching 200 associate unit inspectors Operational Readiness Exercise/Inspection procedures.

In his primary job, Sergeant Monk deployed in support of Operation Unified Assistance and formed a phlebotomy team and

set up six onsite stations with no delays. He also partnered with the Japanese Red Cross, re-establishing the blood supply agreement decreasing procurement time by 94 percent.

Upon finding out about his award, Sergeant Monk said, "Lab technicians play a pivotal role in the health care of our Airmen and dependents. Sometimes it feels like our work is overlooked so it feels really good to be recognized."

Sergeant Monk didn't take complete credit for the award though because he feels it was more of a team award.

"I credit all the lab techs of the 374th Medical Group with this award," said Sergeant Monk. "They deserve recognition – I couldn't have done it without their support and hard work. I

also have to thank my wife ... this is her award as much as it is mine. She woke up during every emergency call that I responded to and was there for me to download after a difficult day. She really takes care of me like no other could."

Sergeant Bussie, the Facility Management Noncommissioned Officer in Charge, managed the operation and maintenance of \$220 million and 265,200 square feet of medical assets sustaining 95 percent patient access to the Medical Group facilities.

He led the architectural design of a \$7.8 million, five-year facility upgrade, ensuring future efficiency and optimized space utilization. Sergeant Bussie was also integral to the \$2.1 million Emergency Room renovation, in-

cluding a state-of-the-art trauma room and patient decontamination area, enhancing medical response.

In his off-duty time, Sergeant Bussie achieved the Healthcare Environmental Management certification, increasing 374th MDG knowledge of environmental awareness.

He also earned his Master's Degree in Criminal Justice, completing 30 graduate hours in 13 months and is pursuing a Master's Degree in Public Administration with 15 credit hours earned in six months.

To become a more-rounded NCO, Sergeant Bussie is also a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives, keeping pace with civilian counterparts, implementing new methods at the 374th MDG.

American Red Cross recognized annually during month of March

By Betsy Fitzgerald
American Red Cross representative

The American Red Cross is reminding communities that March is Red Cross Month, a time to commemorate Red Cross involvement.

Every year since 1943, the President of the United States has proclaimed March as Red Cross Month. As a result, March has become a time for the Red Cross to commemorate its past accomplishments and to look forward to future goals.

The celebration started a "Roll Call" drive to increase public support during

wartime. After discussions with President Franklin Roosevelt, the honorary chairman of the Red Cross, an official call for support was issued, and he declared the whole month of March as Red Cross Month.

"I summon the men, women and young people of our country, in every city and town and village, in every county and state throughout the land, to enlist in the army of mercy mobilized under the banner of the Red Cross and to contribute generously to the Red Cross War Fund," former President Roosevelt said. Within six weeks the effort brought in more than

\$125 million in donations.

Yokota's American Red Cross chapter will be hosting a variety of events to support the month-long celebration.

The local Red Cross chapter will host a table one day a week at the Yokota Community Center. Community members are invited to visit the table and show staff members their Red Cross certification card, first aid kit, or disaster kits to win great prizes like a Red Cross disaster kit, first aid kit or blanket.

The table will be set up: March 1 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.; March 10 from 3 to 7 p.m.; March 19 from 11 a.m. to

3 p.m.; March 23 from 3 to 7 p.m.; and March 27 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The chapter is also hosting a antique and furniture bazaar Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Yujo Recreation Center, located across from the Traditional Chapel. Volunteers are needed to assist with the bazaar.

The local chapter also offers regular training classes including CPR and AED, babysitting, and disaster preparedness.

For more information on any of these events or to volunteer, please call 225-7522.

NEWS AROUND THE AIR FORCE & PACAF

For these stories and more, visit Air Force Link at www.af.mil

Air Force implements new cell phone restriction:
SAN ANTONIO (AFPN) – The Air Force is implementing a new cell phone restriction for drivers.

Beginning Feb. 27, drivers have not been allowed to talk on their cell phones while driving on Air Force installations without a hands free device. This policy is part of the Department of Defense's Joint Traffic Guidance.

Customer feedback needed for new Web site:
RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) – The Air Force Personnel Center is giving its customers an opportunity to ensure the new AFPC Web site will answer their personnel questions.

The new searchable site is accessible via a link on the current AFPC homepage at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil and customers are encouraged to provide feedback.

Nihon-go now

⇒ **What is your favorite TV show?**

Dono telebi bangumi ga suki desuka.
(doh-noh teh-leh-bee bah-neh-goo-mee seh-kee deh-ss kah.)

⇒ **I watch reality television a lot.**

Watashi wa [reality] bangumi o yoku mimasu.
(wah-tah-shee wah [le-ah-lah-tee] bah-ne-goo-mee oh yoh-koo mee-mah-soo.)

AD

Wing wraps up deployment training

By Capt. Warren Comer
374th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Airmen from the 374th Airlift Wing conducted a mobility exercise Monday and Tuesday in preparation for the wing's upcoming Operational Readiness Inspection set to take place March 12 through 21.

The exercise was an opportunity for wing leaders to test the processing of personnel and equipment that play a major role during the first days of a possible conflict or contin-

gency, said wing senior leadership.

In order to process large numbers of Airmen who would deploy from Yokota, the wing has a thorough set of steps deploying personnel must go through to make sure they are medically, legally and mentally ready to deploy.

Also taking place in conjunction with deployments, Airmen are received from the United States to help augment Yokota units in positions left open after their assigned

members are deployed.

Most deployment preparations are done in advance and Airmen pass through a deployment line, or a series of checks to ensure that they will have all necessary paperwork completed before departing.

This process was tested many times over during the exercise to ensure Airmen understood their duties as well as comprehended the importance with making sure that tasks are completed right the first time.

Overall the wing said the

exercise was successful.

"The Samurai Wing is trained and ready to meet the taskings and requirements of our higher headquarters," said Col. Scott Goodwin, 374th AW commander. "Whether it is for the upcoming Operational Readiness Inspection or if it's a real-world crisis such as last week's humanitarian relief efforts in the Philippines, the dedicated men and women of Yokota Air Base are ready to perform our important airlift mission here in the Western Pacific."

Yokota captains earn selection for major

The Air Force Personnel Center recently announced the selections for major.

The following captains based here have been selected for promotion to major:

Jesse Acevedo, 374th Operations Support Squadron; Katherine Bailey, 374th Airlift Wing; Michael Bailey, 374th OSS; James Burgess, 36th Airlift Squadron; Jason Church, 374th Maintenance Operations Squadron; Walter Clay, 374th AW;

Keith Ensor, 36th AS; Ian Fairchild, 36th AS; Roger Garnes, 605th Air Intelligence Squadron; Jerry Hickey, 36th AS;

Ryan Lambrecht, 374th AW; Spring Myers, 374th Medical Operations Squadron; Richard Stabile, 5th Air Force; Ian Tate, 374th AW; Travis Trotter, 374th Operations Group;

Darnell Walker, 374th Medical Support Squadron; James Wall, 36th AS; Jeffery Weak, 374th Communications Squadron.

For more information about the board or promotions, community members can visit the Air Force Personnel Center internet site at: <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil>.

(Courtesy of 374th Mission Support Squadron and AFPC)

AF's premier medical center chosen for national study

By 2nd Lt. David Herndon
59th Medical Wing Public Affairs

LACKLAND AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) – The vascular surgery service at Wilford Hall Medical Center has been chosen to participate in a national trial looking at the effectiveness of stent graft treatment of abdominal aortic aneurysms versus standard open repair. The trial has been named PIVOTAL, which stands for the Positive Impact of Endo Vascular Options for Treating Aneurysms Early.

Abdominal aortic aneurysms affect about 1.5 million patients in the United States. A disease of aging, they result from degeneration and expansion of the abdominal aorta

before it branches into the leg arteries. The natural history of aneurysms is one of expansion, rupture or leaking which results in about 15,000 deaths per year.

In 1997 the Food and Drug Administration approved a procedure for the treatment of abdominal aortic aneurysms which involves placement of a covered stent inside the aorta, sealing the aneurysm and allowing it to decrease in size and heal. The effectiveness and popularity of this endovascular technique has resulted in more than 50 percent of minimal aortic aneurysms treated in this manner.

The stent procedure can be performed through small incisions and often does not require general anesthesia. In addition, this

procedure usually requires only one evening in a monitored setting and only a few days in the hospital. According to Lt. Col. (Dr.) Todd Rasmussen, chief of vascular surgery services, there is considerably less discomfort and the recovery time is much quicker.

The PIVOTAL study conducted at Wilford Hall will evaluate patients diagnosed with small aneurysms to see if there is an advantage to treating the aneurysms at an earlier or smaller stage. The study will last for approximately five years and will follow both groups of patients closely during this time.

All interested in being a part of this study should call (210) 292-5924.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

AD

Minding your manners in Japan?

Airmen reminded to be 'good guests' while stationed on foreign soil

By Col. Mark Presson
374th Medical Group

Reading "Stars and Stripes" lately has become very embarrassing.

Unfortunately, the newspaper documents the ongoing misdeeds of U.S. service-members and their family members. The actual number of those engaged in such behavior is very small but their impact is disproportionately large.

No alliance is more important to our leaders than the Japan-U.S. alliance. A key to the stability of Asia is the presence of U.S. forces in Japan. The stability of Asia not only preserves freedom and self destiny but also directly impacts our standard of living.

For instance, how much would you have to spend to find a high-quality camera, watch or stereo equipment item manufactured in the United States?

Our misbehavior causes the Japanese to regularly re-examine whether the U.S. military should indeed be present in Japan.

American military misbehavior is not just about some theoretical notion of international relations, but rather ultimately about world peace, the strength of free societies in the world and practically speaking, about our standard of living.

It should come as no surprise that commanders have little patience with members who embarrass the United States and thwart its purposes.

So exactly what kind of behavior is

appropriate for U.S. forces stationed in Japan?

I submit that the foundation to appropriate behavior is a proper attitude.

Starting with our core value of "Service Before Self," our behavior should further the purpose of the service and ultimately the United States.

The key word is "service." The military community directly represents our nation and the Commander in Chief,

President George W. Bush. To honorably serve, we must be great ambassadors. As ambassadors, our personal behavior must always be bounded by the greater interests of our service and country.

It is difficult to serve well if we do not understand the mission. In this case, it is "Mission: Japan."

To be effective in Japan, we must become a student of the Japanese people and culture. As we begin to understand Japanese norms, our behavior will become more culturally sensitive.

The beginning of service is to act, speak, dress within normal Japan's limits. Service doesn't mean losing our identity. We should be

proud to be Americans but not arrogant. Many Americans have a tendency to impose their values and lifestyles on others. Americans think they "have it right" and others need to adopt our way of life. While we may be proud of American culture and accomplishments over the last 200 to 300 years, the Japanese are also very proud of their culture which has a history many times longer than our own.

We must never forget that we are invited

guests. Our attitude should be that of a respectful and grateful guest. We have all been in situations where a guest has become unwelcome generally because of behavior or attitude issues. Our government does not want us to wear out the welcome mat for the United States.

Appropriate behavior is essential to accomplishing our assigned missions as servicemembers and family members based in Japan. A proper attitude based on service before self, knowing Japanese

culture, proud but never arrogant and thinking like a guest, should result in behavior which is appropriate and will reflect well on the one who cuts our paychecks, our employer: the United States.

"To be effective in Japan, we must become a student of the Japanese people and culture. As we begin to understand Japanese norms, our behavior will become more culturally sensitive. ... We should be proud to be Americans but not arrogant. ... We must never forget we are guests."

Col. Mark Presson

374th Medical Group commander

Finding success in everyday details

By Lt. Col. Robert Bunte
374th Operations Support Squadron

It was once said, "A man's accomplishments in life are the cumulative effect of his attention to detail."

I think the man quoted above, John Foster Dulles, is right.

Consider the following story: a criminal in New York who stole a woman's purse the other day. After he made his successful escape and examined the contents of the purse, he was surprised to discover that instead of U.S. dollars, the large amount of money he had stolen were Euros, the currency of the European Union.

Undaunted, the criminal decided to go to a currency exchange and trade-in the Euros for dollars. Alas, this was his fatal mistake. The currency exchange he selected shared a parking lot with the local police station, which had just received an alert for the thief. He was immediately apprehended.

Where did the criminal go wrong?

He planned well; he was able to find a well-to-do victim and make a clean getaway. He even was able to react to an unforeseen circumstance by realizing he could trade the Euros for U.S. dollars at a currency exchange.

The failure came when he failed to pay adequate attention to detail at the final point of execution. He apparently was either too distracted by the pace of events or too deeply immersed in thought to maintain situational awareness; the result of this was that he literally turned himself in.

The importance of attention to detail is no surprise to the military. It has been important to ancient militaries; it is important today; and it will be in the future as well.

For instance in the 5th century B.C., no army could match the strength of the Spartan warriors. There were multiple occurrences where they defeated forces double and triple their size, even though their enemy had prior knowledge of the terrain, tactics and weaponry that would be used against them.

The Spartans were able to

overcome such odds by their attention to detail. There was no weakness in the Spartan frontline – every soldier was a professional and was harshly trained to maintain superior technique. They had a shield on their left arm and a spear in their right. The shield, however, was not for their protection – it was for the soldier to their left. This allowed the Spartans to fight as one entity and deliver crushing blow after crushing blow upon their enemies. Imagine the concentration and will power required to commit such an unnatural act in the face of your enemy; this clearly required rigorous training and attention to detail.

In the weeks ahead, the 374th Airlift Wing will also face a test. The Operational Readiness Inspection is only nine days away and will certainly test our ability to perform in the face of adversity.

One of the core themes to our success will be our ability to maintain our attention to detail throughout the stress of the inspection – whether caused from extended MOPP periods or

fatigue. Our ability to overcome these distracters will prove the difference in the final results.

Remember to rely on your training: the Air Force has taught you to perform in a particular manner for a reason, so continue these practices during the inspection.

The exercises have also taught us to recognize the warning signs of fatigue both in yourself and your fellow Airmen. Recognize these symptoms and take the appropriate action – take a break, drink some water, whatever it takes to help you refocus your efforts.

Teams are measured by their accomplishments. The opening quote suggests that accomplishments are a direct result of one's ability to execute the details. Our ability to maintain attention to detail will be the difference between success and failure not only for the ORI but in future endeavors as well.

It was for the unaware criminal; it was for the powerful and unified Spartans; and it will be for us Samurai warriors.



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Deadlines

The deadline for articles, briefs and classifieds is Wednesday the week before publication. For holidays, the deadline is one day earlier.

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Publisher

DUI Prevention

Feb. 15 – Feb. 21	0
Total DUIs in February	1
Total in 2006	3

Punishment

.049 or less = car parked for 12 hours
.05-.079 = 6 months walking
.081-.149 = 1 year walking
0.15 or greater = 2 years walking

*Don't
drink and drive.
Call 225-RIDE!*

READINESS

There is more than meets the eye ...

Photos and story by
Master Sgt. Val Gempis
Air Force Print News

Ensuring the serviceability and availability of more than 400,000 pieces of mobility equipment daily might be a daunting task for some.

But for a team of logistics Airmen here providing the correct gear for combat-ready Pacific Air Force troops, for training and real-world deployments is one of the most rewarding job in the world.

"Our mission is important because we help save lives," said Master Sgt. Henry Purvis, chief of the 374th Logistics Readiness Squadron's war readiness element. "All our equipment here is in a ready-to-use state. Our people can deploy any time."

The seven-person team, composed of five military and two Japanese employees, is the central point for all base mobility operations here. They are responsible for

an assortment of inventories including weapons and body armor. They also maintain and track about 10,000 general purpose, extreme cold weather and chemical warfare defense ensemble bags used by the wing and tenant units.

Attention to detail, the Airmen said, is the key to keeping these items in excellent shape.

"It's slow and very detailed work," said Senior Airman Jamal Johnson, a war readiness technician. "We carefully inspect each item."

Mobility equipment, which is stored in bins and containers, are stacked ceiling-high across a vast 30,000 square-foot warehouse.

The Airmen closely look for cracks, tears, rips and disbonding especially on CWDE equipment.

These checks are essential, he added, in case the equipment is needed in a "dirty environment."

However, unit members also stressed that the task of en-

suring that the "shelf life" of the equipment remains good is the most challenging part of their job.

"We keep track of items here diligently," said Tech. Sgt. Max Villacorta, a war readiness technician with the element. "Equipment that passed inspection yesterday might be obsolete the next day."

He said his flight members follow instructions based on messages they receive from command headquarters.

Items that are expired or non-compliant are replaced or removed.

They also use a computer-based Mobility Inventory Control Accountability System to relay information to unit deployment managers about which items need to be inspected or updated.

"We might not be on the frontline here but it feels great to know our troops are assured the equipment we give them is in top working condition if needed," added Sergeant Purvis.

Top left, Tech. Sgt. Max Villacorta, a war readiness technician with the 374th Logistics Readiness Squadron, inspects gas masks for serviceability during an inventory at the LRS facility here. Far left, Senior Airman Jamal Johnson inspects a bin of chemical warfare overboots during an inventory. Left, Airman Johnson takes a close look at a gas mask for possible cracks, tears, rips and disbonding on the mask.



AD

Off base

Plum Tree park festival:

This well-known plum tree park in Tama, called Yoshino Baigo, is hosting its annual festival Feb. 25 to March 31 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. There are more than 25,000 plum trees in 120 different varieties. The park is a 15-minute walk from the JR Ome Line's Hinata Wada Station.

Hamura City's Flower and Water Festival: Hamura City's cherry blossom trees and tulips will be in bloom between March 17 and April 23. The trees and flowers can be seen near Hamura Dam and Negarami-mae's paddy field. Parking costs 500 yen per day.

Dance Dance Dance 2006:

The Yutorogi Dance-Off is April 9 at 1:30 p.m. at the Yutorogi Main Hall in Hamura City. Applications are now being accepted. Only the first 30 applicants will be accepted. Prizes include 50,000 yen for the contest champion. Dance styles include hip-hop, break dancing, free style and others. For more information, send a fax to Ms. Chiba at 042-570-6422.

On base

Movies

Today – *Fun with Dick and Jane*, PG-13, 7 p.m.; *Freedomland*, R, 9:30 p.m.

Saturday – *The Ringer*, PG-13, 2 p.m.; *Munich*, R, 7 p.m.; *Freedomland*, R, 9:30 p.m.

Sunday – *Fun with Dick and Jane*, PG-13, 2 p.m.; *Freedomland*, R, 7 p.m.

Monday – *Freedomland*, R, 7 p.m.

Tuesday – *Munich*, R, 7 p.m.

Wednesday – *Freedomland*, R, 7 p.m.

Thursday – *The Ringer*, PG-13, 7 p.m.

All movies and showtimes are subject to change without notice. Call 225-8708.

Tax center open

The Yokota Tax Center is open Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and

Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Walk-in hours for 1040EZ filing are Mondays through Wednesdays from 9 to 11 a.m. The center is in Bldg. 3302. Call 225-4926.

Enlisted Calls

The 374th Airlift Wing commander is hosting mandatory enlisted calls at the base theater Monday. The schedule is as follows: 8 a.m. for shift workers; 9 a.m. for senior noncommissioned officers; 10 a.m. for NCOs in the mission support group and wing staff agencies; 12:30 p.m. for NCOs in the medical, maintenance and operations groups; 1:30 p.m. for airmen in the mission support group and wing staff agencies; and 2:30 p.m. for airmen in the medical, maintenance and operations groups.

Tanabata Dancers

The Tanabata Dancers are hosting an open house for its upcoming season tonight at 6:30 p.m. at the Taiyo Recreation Center including free food, gifts and prizes. The group practices traditional Japanese dancing and performs across the region. Practices are Fridays at 6:30 p.m. at the Taiyo Recreation Center.

Project Graduation

The Yokota High School Project Graduation Committee* is holding a general meeting Wednesday at the base library at 5 p.m. The meeting is open to all high school seniors, parents and people interested in helping Project Graduation. Call 225-4318.

Volunteer awards

The Family Support Center is accepting annual volunteer award packages until March 22. The award categories are the volunteer excellence award and the volunteer of the year award. Call 225-8725.

Spring bazaar

The Yokota Officers' Spouses Club* is hosting its annual spring bazaar April 1 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., April 2 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Hangar 15. Volunteers are needed to assist vendors, donate baked goods, and provide transla-

tion services. Send an e-mail to yoscbaazarvolunteer@yahoo.com.

Promotion party

The base community is invited to celebrate with Yokota Airmen selected for promotion to senior master sergeant March 10 at 4 p.m. at the Enlisted Club.

Furniture, carpet sale

Yokota's American Red Cross chapter is hosting an antiques, furniture and carpet sale Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Yujo Recreation Center. Volunteers are also needed. Call 225-7522.

SOS

The base chapter of Secular Organization for Sobriety, or Save Our Selves, is offering regular meetings and support to addicted individuals here. E-mail sos-yokota@hotmail.com or visit <http://www.sossobriety.org/>.

Scholarships offered

The Yokota Officers' Spouses' Club* is sponsoring scholarships for SOFA-status Yokota High School seniors and SOFA-status spouses who will be enrolling in college this spring. Visit <http://www.yosc.org>.

The Yokota Enlisted Spouses' Club* is offering two \$1,000 scholarships to Yokota High School seniors. The deadline for application is April 28. Applications are available at the high school or requested through yokotaesc@yahoo.com.

The Tokyo Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority* is sponsoring scholarships for SOFA-status high school seniors throughout the Kanto Plain. Applications must be submitted by April 30. Call 227-3638 or 227-3834.

College classes

Central Texas College is offering on-site courses for Term 4 including criminal investigation, children with special needs and introduction to PC operating systems. Registration dates are March 20 to 31. Term dates are April 3 to May 27. Call 225-9133.

Samurai Warriors



of the Week



First Lt. Joshua Dunn

First Lt. Joshua Dunn, 374th Services Division, is this week's Samurai Warrior of the Week for exhibiting the Bushido qualities of sincerity, courage and self-control.

Lieutenant Dunn is the Officer-In-Charge of Services Readiness and Mortuary Affairs here. He takes great pride in each and every task set before him. He orchestrated the mass casualty operation during the recent 374th Airlift Wing Operational Readiness Exercise. His leadership abilities allowed Services Division to continually accomplish both its peacetime and wartime mission, despite a low manning level due to deployment taskings.

He loves to help people and makes a difference at Yokota.

Yokota Singles

All singles are invited to a free coffee and snack bar every Friday from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. in the building behind the Traditional Chapel.

Troops To Teachers

The "Troops/Spouses To Teachers" program representatives are briefing March 9 at the base training and education center in Bldg. 316, second floor. Group briefings are from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., and individual sessions are from 1 to 4 p.m. Call 225-7337.

Career Day

Yokota West Elementary School needs volunteers to speak during its annual Career Day March 31. Participants must prepare a 20-minute presentation. Call 225-7611.

Fuji Flyer corrections

The Feb. 3 story "AAFES deputy commanding general pays visit to base" incorrectly stated AAFES generates \$1.9 billion in revenue. It actually generates \$9.1 billion in revenue.

The Feb. 24 story "Lifestyle,

weight management is TOPS" incorrectly identified the TOPS program as "Taking Off Pounds Sensibly." It is actually "Take Off Pounds Sensibly."

Closure

The Furnishings Management Office is closed April 3 to 7. The office reopens April 10.

Chapel Schedule

Traditional (West) Chapel
Catholic: Mass, Sundays at 9:15 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Protestant: Traditional service, Sundays at 11 a.m.; Liturgical service Sundays at 12:30 p.m.; Seventh Day Adventists, Saturdays at 9 a.m.

Contemporary (East) Chapel
Protestant: Gospel service, Sundays at 11 a.m.; Korean Service, Sundays at 2 p.m.; Contemporary service, Sundays at 5 p.m.

PO disclaimer

An asterisk (*) denotes a private organization. Private organizations are not a part of the Department of Defense or any of its components and have no governmental status.

AD

“Quotes” & Things

“No, ma’am, I was a jockey for a dinosaur.”

Johnny Kerr,
who is 6 foot, 9 inches,
on being asked
whether he ever
played basketball

Chess tournament: A chess tournament is being held Saturday at 9 a.m. at the Taiyo Recreation Center. Competition categories are: ages six to eight, nine to 12, nine to 18, and SOFA-status community members. Competitors must be a U.S. Chess Federation member, and are welcome to sign up the day of the competition. Call 225-6955.

Dive Club: The Yokota Finatics Dive Club meets every first Thursday of the month in Bldg. 909 behind Hangar 15. Visit <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/yokotafinatics/>.

Half-marathon: Camp Zama is hosting a half-marathon along with a 5K and children’s race at Sagami Depot April 23. Call 263-5995.

Baseball: The Yokota Thunder Baseball Club is recruiting players. All SOFA-status members and local nationals are eligible. E-mail mohrvictor@yahoo.com or call 090-3500-0343.

National Patient Safety Awareness Week: Celebrated this week, it is sponsored by the National Patient Safety Foundation. During this week, patients are encouraged to speak up if they have questions or concerns. It is important to ask questions about healthcare plans, and to understand what was said during each and every visit. Also, community members are encouraged to keep a list of all the medicines they take, which can be obtained from the pharmacy.

Varsity football team looking for new talent

Team members’ meeting for Saturday, open to interested community members

By Master Sgt. Dominique Brown
374th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

The Yokota Warriors tackle football team is looking for new players for the upcoming season.

The team is holding the season’s first meeting Saturday from 11 a.m. to noon in the Taiyo Recreation Center. The season is from May through August, however, practices will be announced soon.

Tackle football is unique to overseas bases, and all SOFA-status personnel 18 or older are welcome to participate in this full contact sport. The returning team members bring talent and experience, but hope to recruit some new talent to add to their “family.”

“The best thing about our Warrior team is that we bring everyone into the game,” said head coach Jacob Dowdell. “We have a core group of veterans returning this year, which will provide a great deal of leadership for new talent, to include quarterback Bruce Turner and probably the most underrated defensive tandem in the league, Jerrick Nunn and Mardie Wilson.”

New members joining the team this year “can expect to play with team veteran’s that have varying talent levels from playing at the high school, college and semi-pro level,” said Turner, who is a quarterback.

However, the team makes it clear that previous experience is not a prerequisite. “We have people that joined the team last year who had never played before,” explained Turner. With the combination of seasoned and fresh talent

on the field, the Warriors advanced to the league championship game last season and came up only a couple of points short of winning.

“It’s great to play for the team because most of the guys had thought they would never get the chance to play again,” said defense Wilson, referring to the team’s high level of motivation. “People who are coming out to play this year can expect to be part of the best season in probably a decade because we have so many key players and coaches returning.”

Experience is not a prerequisite, but commitment is. Anyone interested in playing should be prepared for the physical challenge of full-contact varsity football.

“Players can expect to push themselves to their physical limits through demanding practices and college-level competition,” said Turner. “Our season occurs during the hottest months of the year in Japan so players can expect to get in good shape and probably drop some pounds in the process.”

The quarterback added that there is room for everyone on the team lineup.

“One of the team mottos is ‘Always mission first,’ therefore we need as many people on the team as we can get because we never know who is going to be working, on temporary duty or on leave during the season.”

Another team motto is “Take care of your family, take care of your job, and take care of yourself,” said defense Nunn. “The team is like a second family for me being so far from home. If I need anything, regardless of how big or small, I can go to the team.”



photo by Senior Airman Katie Thomas

Ron Carmichael reaches for the ball during the first quarter of a game at Bonk Field during a previous season.

Family and fans are also important to the team.

“We are proud to have the support of our families and base community when we go forward as ambassadors for Yokota on the grid iron,” Dowdell said.

The team has a Warrior Booster Club made up of wives and supporters who will be holding a separate meeting at the same time and place of the team’s meeting on Saturday.

The season’s game schedule has not been finalized yet, but the team expects to travel to Misawa, Atsugi, Yokosuka and possibly the Tokyo dome for away games, as well some home games here.

Practice times will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. on Darling Field. E-mail jacob.dowdell@yokota.af.mil for more information.

Aerobics on Demand

Whether you are a morning, afternoon or night person, there is an aerobics class conveniently available throughout the week.

Classes are held in the Natatorium, located on the east side of base near the movie theater and skate park. All classes are free of charge and led by certified professionals.

Saturday’s “Instructor’s Choice” aerobics session starting at 9 a.m. can be any one of the following classes that are currently offered:

⇒ Eye-Opening Workout

Monday, Wednesday, Friday
Begins at 5 a.m. sharp

⇒ Power Yoga

Tuesday, Thursday
Be there at 5 a.m.

⇒ Kickbox Aerobics

Monday, Wednesday, Friday
Kicks off at 11:30 a.m.

⇒ Step & Weights

Tuesday, Thursday
Be ready by 11:30 a.m.

⇒ Circuit Training

Monday, Wednesday
Off and running at 3:30 p.m.

⇒ Step Aerobics

Monday, Wednesday
Late-starter at 5:30 p.m.

AD